

52B1  
A1  
1. (Amended) An image processing apparatus including:  
a first determination means for determining whether or not a pixel included in an image is  
a color pixel;  
means for dividing the image into a predetermined number of a plurality of blocks;  
counting means for counting the number of color pixels for each block; and  
second determination means for determining whether or not the image is a color image  
based on the counting result by the counting means.

52B1  
A2  
52. (Amended) An image forming apparatus including:  
means for inputting an image;  
first determination means for determining whether or not a pixel included in the  
input image is a color pixel;  
means for dividing the image into a predetermined number of a plurality of  
blocks;  
counting means for counting the number of color pixels for each block;  
second determination means for determining whether or not the image is a color  
image based on the counting result by the counting means; and  
printing means performing color-printing in case the second determination means  
determines the image as a color image, and performing monochrome-printing in case the second  
determination means determines the image as a non-color image.

56. (Amended) Color image determination method including:

step of determining whether or not pixels included in an image are color pixels,

respectively;

step of dividing the image into a predetermined number of a plurality of blocks;

step of counting the number of color pixels for each block; and

step of determining whether the image is a color image based on the counting

result.